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T.H.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Garth Aaron Hystad

Serial No.: 09/776,530

Filed: February 3, 2001

Atty. File No.: 45303-00070

For: "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
DECK AND RAIL CONSTRUCTION
USING WOOD COMPOSITES"

MAIL STOP: FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

) Group Art Unit: 3635
)
) Examiner: Yvonne M. Horton
)
) **AMENDMENT FOLLOWING FINAL**
) **ACTION**
)

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I Hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to the ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 26, 2003.</p> <p>By: <u>Rebecca K. Wilson</u> Holme Roberts & Owen LLP</p>

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.116

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action of March 28, 2003, Applicant requests entry of the following amendments to the claims after final action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Such amendments place the claims in form for allowance and otherwise comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Accordingly, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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App. No. 09/776,530
Amendment dated September 26, 2003
Reply to Final Office Action of March 28, 2003

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Argument explaining the proposed claim amendments begin on page 10 of this paper.

In a separate attachment, Applicant requests a three (3) month extension of time.